

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-8 Canceled

9. (Currently Amended) An antibiotic compound  $\beta$ -keto aliphatic acid ester isolated from *Bacillus sp.* IICT 001 and possessing the following spectral properties

UV max (MeOH) : 225

$^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\text{CDCl}_3$ (80  $\text{MHz}$ ): 0.88 t ( $\text{CH}_3$ ); 1.25 s, br ( $\text{CH}_2$ ) $_n$ ; 2.16s ( $\text{COCH}_2$ ); 3.68 s( $\text{COOCH}_3$ ) IR.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{CHCl}_3)$ :  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  1730 (ester), 1670 (Carbonyl), wherein the antibiotic compound is made by a process comprising:

preparing an at least 3 to 4 day old culture broth of *Bacillus sp.* with a medium comprising soya; extracting the resulting culture medium with a solvent at a temperature between 20°C and 45°C and a pH between 4.5 and 8.0; purifying the medium with a solvent by chromatography; and eluting with the same solvent to obtain the antimicrobial compound.

10. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a  $\beta$ -keto aliphatic acid ester isolated from *Bacillus sp.* IICT 001 and possessing the following spectral properties

UV max (MeOH) : 225

$^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\text{CDCl}_3$ (80  $\text{MHz}$ ): 0.88 t ( $\text{CH}_3$ ); 1.25 s, br ( $\text{CH}_2$ ) $_n$ ; 2.16s ( $\text{COCH}_2$ ); 3.68 s( $\text{COOCH}_3$ ) IR.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{CHCl}_3)$ :  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  1730 (ester), 1670 (Carbonyl) in admixture with a therapeutically acceptable carrier wherein the  $\beta$ -keto aliphatic acid ester is made by a process comprising:

preparing an at least 3 to 4 day old culture broth of *Bacillus sp.* with a medium comprising soya; extracting the resulting culture medium with a solvent at a temperature between 20°C and 45°C and a pH between 4.5 and 8.0; purifying the

medium with a solvent by chromatography; and eluting with the same solvent to obtain the  $\beta$ -keto aliphatic acid ester.